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**STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3934

PHONE: (202) 371-2600 • FACSIMILE: (202) 371-2540 • www.skgf.com

J1050 U.S. PTO  
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10/60/01

ROBERT GREENE STERNE  
EDWARD J. KESSLER  
JOSEPH A. GOLDSTEIN  
SAMUEL L. FOX\*\*\*  
DAVID K.S. CORNWELL  
ROBERT W. ESMOND  
TRACY-GENE G. DURKIN  
MICHELE A. CIMBALA  
MICHAEL B. RAY  
ROBERT E. SOKOHL  
ERIC K. STEFFE  
MICHAEL O. LEE  
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LINDA E. ALCORN  
ROBERT C. MILLONIG  
MICHAEL V. MESSINGER  
JUDITH U. KIM  
TIMOTHY J. SHEA, JR.  
PATRICK E. GARRETT  
JEFFREY T. HELVEY\*  
HEIDI L. KRAUS  
JEFFREY R. KURIN  
PATRICK D. O'BRIEN  
LAWRENCE B. BUGAISKY  
CRYSTAL D. SAYLES

EDWARD W. YEE  
ALBERT L. FERRO\*  
DONALD R. BANOWIT  
PETER A. JACKMAN  
MOLLY A. MCCALL  
TERESA U. MEDLER  
JEFFREY S. WEAVER  
KENORICK P. PATTERSON  
DONALD J. FEATHERSTONE  
VINCENT L. CAPUANO  
JOHN A. HARROUN\*  
ALBERT J. FASULO II\*  
ELOORA ELLISON FLOYD\*

W. RUSSELL SWINDELL  
THOMAS C. FIALA  
BRIAN J. DEL BUONO\*  
VIRGIL L. BEASTON\*  
RYAN J. STAMPER\*  
REGINALD D. LUCAS\*  
THEODORE A. WOOD  
KAREN R. MARKOWICZ\*\*  
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JOSEPH M. CONRAD, III\*\*  
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DUSTIN T. JOHNSON\*\*  
MATTHEW J. DOWO\*\*  
TIMOTHY M. SPEER\*\*  
AARON L. SCHWATZ\*\*

\*LIMITED TO MATTERS  
AND PROCEEDINGS BEFORE  
FEDERAL COURTS & AGENCIES  
\*\*REGISTERED PATENT AGENT  
\*\*\*SENIOR COUNSEL

October 9, 2001

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:  
(202) 371-2667

INTERNET ADDRESS:  
MIKEM@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Box: Patent Application

Re: U.S. Non-Provisional Utility Patent Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)  
Appl. No. To Be Assigned; Filed: Herewith  
For: **A Method and Apparatus for a Common-Cause Failure Module for  
Probabilistic Risk Assessment Tools**  
Inventors: Franciscus J. GROEN *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1797.0510000

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. USPTO Utility Patent Application Transmittal Form PTO/SB/05 (*in duplicate*);
2. U.S. Utility Patent Application entitled:

**A Method and Apparatus for a Common-Cause Failure Module for  
Probabilistic Risk Assessment Tools**

and naming as inventors:

Franciscus J. GROEN  
Carol S. SMIDTS  
Ali MOSLEH

the application comprising:

Commissioner for Patents

October 9, 2001

Page 2

- a. A specification containing:
    - i. 23 pages of description prior to the claims;
    - ii. 7 pages of claims (26 claims - 6 Independent);
    - iii. a one (1) page abstract;
  - b. 12 sheets of drawings: (Figures 1-12); and
  - c. an Application Data Sheet (37 C.F.R. § 1.76).
3. Authorization to Treat a Reply As Incorporating An Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)(*in duplicate*); and
  4. Two (2) return postcards.

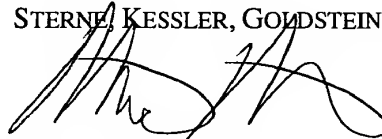
Correspondence should be sent to Customer Number 26111.

It is respectfully requested that, of the two attached postcards, one be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier, and the other, prepaid postcard, be stamped with the filing date and unofficial application number and returned as soon as possible.

***This patent application is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) without Declaration and without filing fee.***

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Michael V. Messinger  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 37,575

Enclosures

Please type a sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/05 (03-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032  
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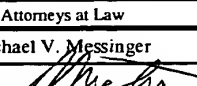
<b>UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL</b> (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR § 1.53(b))		Attorney Docket No.	1797.0510000
		First Inventor	Franciscus J. GROEN <i>et al.</i>
		Title	A Method and Apparatus for a Common-Cause Failure Module for Probabilistic Risk Assessment Tools
		Express Mail Label No.	

<b>APPLICATION ELEMENTS</b> <i>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.</i>	<b>ADDRESS TO:</b> Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages <u>31</u>] (preferred arrangement set forth below) - Descriptive title of the Invention - Cross Reference to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R &amp; D - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawings (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets <u>12</u>]</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oath or Declaration [Total Pages <u>1</u>] a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed) i. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)</b> Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</p> <p>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76.</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)</p> <p>8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF) b. Specification Sequence Listing on: i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. <input type="checkbox"/> paper c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies</p>	
<b>ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS</b>	
<p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet &amp; document(s))</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable)</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two (2) Return Receipt Postcards (Should be specifically itemized)</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.</p> <p>17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Authorization Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) (in duplicate)</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>The name of the assignee is:</u></p>	

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-Part (CIP) of prior application No: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Prior application information: Examiner \_\_\_\_\_ Group/Art Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

<b>19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label Customer No. 26111		 (Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)	
NAME		STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.	
		Attorneys at Law	
NAME (Print/Type)	Michael V. Messinger	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,575
SIGNATURE		Date	October 9, 2001

Burden Hour Statement: this form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Franciscus J. GROEN *et al.*

Appl. No. To Be Assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: **A Method and Apparatus for a Common-Cause Failure Module for Probabilistic Risk Assessment Tools**

Confirmation No.

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 1797.0510000



**Authorization To Treat A Reply As Incorporating An Extension Of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge all required extension of time fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036, if such fees are not otherwise provided for in such reply. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Michael V. Messinger  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 37,575

Date: October 9, 2001

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600